



By Carolyn Lee The Imperial Republican

Cathy Hanna has enjoyed her seven years as grade 7-12 Family and Consumer Science teacher and FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) advisor, but she needs a break.

Hanna has resigned her position effective the end of the school year, and “will see what opportunities come my way.”

Hanna also taught in the same position from 1997-99 when former consumer science teacher Marcia Elder was on sick leave.

Hanna said she’s been “passionate” about her job. “It’s the one area where you keep it real. You’re really going to have to do these things,” such as cooking and sewing, in later life.

Hanna said students may become interested in home-based businesses or hobbies because of her classes. “We expose them to experiences they might not have had otherwise,” she explained.

The Cozad native graduated from Cozad High School in 1976, then obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in home economic education in 1980 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

She taught family and consumer science one year at Perkins County High School, then married David and raised a family, which includes Matt of Imperial, Michael of Los Angeles and Stephen of Cozad, plus four grandchildren.

Hanna has also been the advisor for FCCLA, which had 42 members this year and a high of 50 last year.

FCCLA has promoted the safe teen driver program. Its main community service is to man The Imperial Theatre on movie nights.

In addition, “people were so appreciative” of the new volunteer appreciation supper FCCLA sponsored this year, Hanna noted.

She said that for four years Hanna tried “anything and everything” to get FCCLA active at CCS. When she let go of the anxiety, God moved in and the program took off.

Hanna had approached the school board to see if it would either add a part-time family and consumer science teacher or create two positions that offer a combined 12 class periods.

She said she felt that the workload was unmanageable as it is. Hanna said the program has “experienced tremendous growth and has potential for continued growth.”

As of the last school board meeting, Secondary Principal Mike Sorensen said not one application had been received for Hanna’s position. Administrator Dr. Brad Schoeppe said there are no plans to expand the position.

Hanna doesn’t know what she’ll do after the school year ends, but she said she’s used to being

busy. She plans to take the summer to consider her options.